

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
NOBORU ENDO, et al. : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION
SERIAL NO: 10/553,124 :
FILED: OCTOBER 14, 2004 :
FOR: GENE CAPABLE OF IMPARTING SALT STRESS RESISTANCE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Office Communication mailed June 2, 2006, and prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this response.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this response.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this response.